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# FOREIGN SERVICE DESPATCH

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
BUREAU OF INTER-AMERICAN AFFAIRS
DESP. NO. 722

FROM : AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA

TO : THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE, WASHINGTON

DATE February 19, 1954

REF :

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| | ARA-4 | INFO DC/R - ~~OCD~~ ~~EUR~~/X-1 |
| | REC'D 2/28 | OTHER CIA-7 NAVY-3 ARMY-3 USIA-10 |

SUBJECT: Opinions on Current Guatemalan Political Situation.

I desire to forward for the Department's information a memorandum prepared by Lt. Colonel Theodore J. McAdam, Assistant Air Attaché of this Mission, recording the views of a former Guatemalan Army officer who was at one time a close personal friend of President ARBENZ.

This source confirmed the previously reported view that many Army officers are concerned regarding Communist infiltration in the Government but are afraid to express their views. The source believed that President Arbenz was not a Communist but that he was surrounded by Communists, and that in all liklihood his Administration would not be allowed to finish its full term.

FOR THE AMBASSADOR:

William L. Krieg
Counselor of Embassy

Enclosure:
Memorandum, February 19, 1954.

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